MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : May I know whether the member is aware that I interpellated the Government on a prior occasion on this subject ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): There was an interpellation and an answer was given during the last session.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : The Government promised on that occasion to enquire into the matter. May I know the result of the enquiry if it was conducted ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : No enquiry has so far been conducted.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon*) : May I know whether the Government will consider the question of conducting an enquiry with regard to these complaints ?

MR. P. VISVANATHA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): Yes.

Working of the Proclamation re erection of places of worship.

158. **MR. K. C. CHANDI** (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any rules have been framed under the Proclamation dated the 13th Vrischikam 1074 ;

(*b*) whether any instructions have been issued to the officers concerned with regard to the working of the Proclamation ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the officers are asked to entertain objections received even after the time prescribed by Section 6 of the Proclamation ;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that opinions are called for from the Devaswom Department with respect to every application ;

(*e*) if the answer to part (*d*) is in the affirmative, whether it is done under any of the provisions of the Proclamation ; and

(*f*) whether the applicants are given opportunities to question the truth or otherwise of the opinion from the Devaswom Department ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Government orders for the guidance of officers who conduct enquiries under the Proclamation have been issued.

(*c*) No.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Under Section 6 of the Royal Proclamation of 1074, a notification is published inviting objections regarding an application for permission to erect a place of public worship. A copy of this notification is also sent to the Devaswom Department for opinion. This has been authorised by G. O. R. O C. No. 206/21/G. B., dated the 2nd September 1922, issued after the separation of the Devaswom from the Revenue Department.

(*f*) No.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): With reference to answer to part (*a*), may I know whether there is any reason for not framing rules for the working of the Proclamation of 1074.

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MR. K GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There is no provision, so far as I am aware, for making rules under the Proclamation.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Is it the opinion of the member that the Proclamation can be worked without proper rules?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Proclamation is self-contained. It gives the orders in the matter.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Will the member be pleased to state why separate orders have been issued to officers?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): They are only detailed departmental orders.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): With reference to the answer to part (*b*), may I know whether these orders have been published in the *Gazette*?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The earlier orders are in the *Land Revenue Manual* and, as for the later ones, I cannot say whether they have been published in the *Gazette*.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): With regard to part (*d*), is it the opinion of the member that the publication of the notice is not sufficient notice so far as the Devaswom Department is concerned?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I need not give an opinion in answer to an interpellation.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know the particular reason why a copy of the notice is sent to the Devaswom Department?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is because the Devaswom Department has control of a very large number of places of public worship.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Does the member therefore mean to say that the Devaswom Department ought to be given special notice?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is a matter of opinion and, as I said, I need not give my opinion.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): There is no answer to part (*e*) of my question.

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The answer is full and it says that under Section 6 of the Royal Proclamation of 1074 a notification is published inviting objections.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): My question is whether calling for the opinion from the Devaswom Department is sanctioned by any of the provisions in the Proclamation?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Under the Proclamation a notification is being published.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): Is it stated in the Proclamation itself that a notification should be published?

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MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The Proclamation was issued before the Devaswom Department itself came into existence.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): May I know the authority in pursuance of which the G. O. referred to in the answer to part (*e*) has been issued ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No authority is necessary for issuing an administrative order.

MR. K. C. CHANDI (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): In answer to part (*f*) it is stated that the applicants are not given opportunity to question the truth or otherwise of the opinion from the Devaswom Department. May I know if the opinion of the Devaswom Department affects the disposal of the applications ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes in the same way as the parties are not given an opportunity to question the opinion of the Tahsildar, the parties are not given an opportunity to question the opinion of the Devaswom Department.

Applications for erection of places of worship received during 1105 and 1106.

159. **MR. K. C. CHANDI** (*Minachil* cum *Devicolam*): With reference to the applications received from Christians during the years 1105 and 1106 for erecting places of worship, will the Government be pleased to furnish information on the following points :—

(*a*) the number of applications received in 1105 and 1106 ;

(*b*) the number of applications disposed of in 1105, 1106 and 1107 (till the end of Dhanu) ;

(*c*) the number of applications rejected ;

(*d*) the number of applications in which the opinion of the Devaswom Department was unfavourable ; and

(*e*) the number of applications which were opposed by the Devaswom Department, but which were finally allowed ?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) to (*e*) A statement* showing the information required by the member is laid on the table.

Import and sale of Bombay salt.

160. **MR. A. NARAYANA PILLAI** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the quantity of Bombay salt imported into this State during the years 1105 and 1106 ;

(*b*) the places where this salt is consumed ;

(*c*) whether any restriction has been placed in the sale of this salt ; and

(*d*) whether it is available in all the taluks alike ?

* *Vide* Appendix II—page iv.

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